

REGARDING THE RECENT ATTACKS IN LEBANON BY THE TERRORIST GROUP HEZBOLLAH

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2006

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to condemn yesterday's brutal attack by a terrorist group on Israel, which took the lives of eight Israeli Defense Forces soldiers and captured two others, on the Israel-Lebanon border.

The actions of the terrorist organization, Hezbollah, against Israel are unconscionable. Instead of working towards peace, Hezbollah has chosen to perpetuate the violence. Terrorist attacks such as these are cowardly actions that resolve nothing. From the South, Israel has been attacked by the terrorist organization Hamas with Kassam rockets and had one of her soldiers kidnapped. Hezbollah's current terrorist assault from the North does not further any legitimate peace process. The timing of these aggressions only serves to enhance the existing tensions in the region.

Israel has complied with the U.N. charter and has completely withdrawn from Lebanon since May 2000. Now it is time for the Lebanese government to abide by the U.N.'s rules. In refusing to disarm Hezbollah as required by U.N. Resolution 1559, the Lebanese government is choosing to openly ignore the decree of the international body.

I call upon Lebanese Prime Minister Fouad Siniora to accept responsibility and take immediate action against the terrorist group which Lebanon harbors.

Let us not be misled into believing these attacks arise from a single source. The terrorist organizations, Hezbollah and Hamas, are unquestionably sponsored and guided by the Iranian and Syrian governments. The United States Congress must not allow the Iranian government to use bloodshed as a deflecting tactic against U.S. attention from their unrestricted nuclear program. The Syrian and Iranian governments should be condemned along with the terrorist groups they harbor.

In response to these brutal attacks by terrorists, Israel must have the right to defend herself. Like the United States and other sovereign nations, Israel is justified in reestablishing its deterrent posture.

I express my condolences to the families of the attacked soldiers, and offer a prayer for the safe return of the two kidnapped soldiers from the Lebanon border and the soldier kidnapped in Gaza. I pray for the ultimate end of the cycle of violence in the Middle East.

HONORING THE VETERANS OF PEARL HARBOR

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2006

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, on July 14–16, the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association and the Sons and Daughters of Pearl Harbor Survivors will commence the Sixth District Convention in St. Augustine, Florida to remember those who served at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.

We welcome participants to Florida's Seventh Congressional District and wish them well as they gather in America's oldest city.

It is my privilege to honor the valor and sacrifice of those Pearl Harbor veterans from the State of Florida who recently passed away:

Allfrey, Lesley F.; Altner, Louis I.; Belisle, Frank E.; Benning, Bernard F.; Bernhard, Stephen W.; Brown, Melvin W.; Capra, Everest W.; Cardonell, Robert R.; Childers, James F.; Chilton, Harry C.; Chrastina, William; Cohen, Leon; Cook, Harold F. (Sarge); DeStwolinska, Adelbert; Forbis, Colbert F.; Freeman, Albert H.; Grabowski, Edward S.; Haas, Frank; Hallsman, Eldred E.; Hartley, Charles W.; Henner, Joseph E.; Henry, Robert; Hiedeman, Henry R.; Hull, Burton W.; Kearns, Joseph F.; Kennedy, Earl; Krakowski, Joseph H.; Lightkep, George R.; Loun, Jasper J., Jr.; Martin, Curtis C.; McClintock, Robert, Jr.; Miller, Howard C.; Payne, Donald; Restiva, Anthony Bilano; Rhodes, Clarence G.; Savage, Norman F.; Schnurman, John D.; Smart, Raymond; Smith, Billie J.; Spradley, Lester L.; Stephenson, Joseph, Jr.; Ulrich, Jack; Whetstone, Amos C.; Williams, Wallace R.; Wilson, George; Wright, Ralph; Young, Edward F., Jr.; and Zelenock, John P.

I know I join all those in attendance at the convention and countless Americans who continue to recognize their heroism and their families' incredible sacrifice to our Nation.

DEPUTY MAYOR WALCOTT CELEBRATES CARIBBEAN HERITAGE WEEK

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Dennis Walcott, New York City's Deputy Mayor for Education and Community Development for enthusiastically joining the Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO) and envoys from Grenada, Guyana, and Trinidad and Tobago in celebrating the Caribbean Week.

I was a co-sponsor of the recent bill (H. Con. Res. 51) that declared the month of June as the Caribbean Heritage Month in order to recognize and applaud the contributions of the Caribbean-American communities to the United States. I have participated in celebratory activities in the said communities, including those in my district, such as parades, carnivals and festivals to commemorate this month and present an opportunity to explore the diversity within the Islands.

Mr. Walcott has joined me in this celebration. A celebrity cricket match, a Caribbean Gospelfest, Town Hall meetings featuring Ministers of tourism from the region, a Caribbean Fair at South Street Seaport, and cooking demonstrations by some of the region's top chefs has taken the city by storm. Mr. Walcott, who traces his origin to the islands of Barbados and St. Croix, envisions a win-win tourism relationship between the Islands and New York City, as well as the Nation.

Mr. Speaker I wish to enter into the RECORD, the article from the June 27, 2006 edition of The New York Carib News, titled Deputy Mayor Walcott Embraces Caribbean Week.

DEPUTY MAYOR WALCOTT EMBRACES CARIBBEAN WEEK

NEW YORK.—According to Dennis Walcott, New York City's Deputy Mayor for Education and Community Development, the recent Caribbean Week in New York, staged by the Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO), is deeply important to the City of New York and people and nations of the Caribbean.

Walcott underscored the importance of the Diaspora to the City, and said Caribbean Week is a reinforcement of his personal roots as well as a reminder of the importance of the Caribbean here. Walcott, who traces his roots to the islands of Barbados and St. Croix, said Caribbean-Americans are key players in the running of New York City.

Caribbean Week presents an opportunity for people to understand the diversity of the Caribbean, and according to Walcott appreciate the various countries that are part of the Diaspora of the Caribbean. The Deputy Mayor envisions a win-win tourism relationship between the City of New York and CTO member nations.

A celebrity cricket match, a Caribbean Gospelfest, Town Hall meetings featuring Ministers of Tourism from the region, a Caribbean Fair at the South Street Seaport, the popular Media Marketplace and cooking demonstrations with some of the region's top chefs, were some of the exciting events that took the City by storm during Caribbean Week in New York.

Addressing a town hall meeting at Medgar Evers College in the borough of Brooklyn, Ministers of Tourism from Grenada, Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago told the audience about the importance of tourism to their respective economies, and updated nationals on crime fighting strategies in their territories.

Minister Brenda Hood unveiled plans to work with the VFR (Visiting Friends and Relatives) market, and pledged her commitment to review proposals from the Diaspora media and communications community to promote Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique in the marketplace.

CONGRATULATING DECLARA NIXON BAILEY ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2006

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend DeClara Nixon Bailey on her one-hundredth birthday. Born on August 13, 1906 in Midway, Texas, Mrs. Bailey has contributed an entire lifetime to serving her fellow Texans.

While in Midway, Texas, Mrs. Bailey was an elementary school teacher. By balancing a life of career and family, she stood as an exemplary female representative and role model, in an otherwise male dominated society. Her passion to serve the community and her constant strive towards meritocracy is an example for us all.

In 1954, Mrs. Bailey moved to the greater Dallas area where she volunteered her time to mentally challenged students at the John Neely Bryan Elementary School.

In the 1960's, Mrs. Bailey's devotion to assisting the disadvantaged allowed her to become Volunteer Captain for the American Heart Association in Dallas. Her amazing ambition drove her to also volunteer her time at the Dallas Family Hospital.